

D-7514

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

Section 2, Special Branch

REPORT

Date August 27, 1936.

Subject L. J. Baranovsky, suspected narcotic smuggler, acquires Chinese citizenship.

Made by D.S.I. Prokofiev

Forwarded by

J. Bogdan

With reference to the endorsement of D.C. (Crime) on the attached translation from the "Sin Wan Pao" of August 24, 1936 on the subject of a Russian emigrant named "Blunovsky" who has acquired the status of a Chinese citizen, enquiries show that the correct name of the individual in question is Baranovsky.

Leonty Jacob Baranovsky is a Russian of Jewish origin who was born on 10.4.1884 in Enisseysk Province, Siberia. He is reported to have arrived in Shanghai from Harbin in 1919 and to have since been residing in this city. He conducted a second hand goods shop for some time, after which he established a piece goods and haberdashery shop first in the Settlement and later in the French Concession. The present address of the shop is No. 850-852 Avenue Joffre.

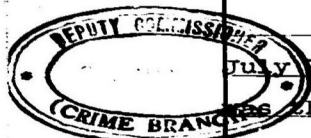
Baranovsky is registered with the Russian Emigrants' Committee, No. 118/1 Moulmein Road.

He first came to the notice of the Municipal Police in July 1919 when a letter was received from Mr. V.F. Grosse, who was then Russian Consul-General in Shanghai, in which Baranovsky was mentioned as a suspected associate of a gang of forgers of Russian Rouble notes (I.O. 3078).

An extract from police report dated January 12, 1931 (I.O. 8823/17) reads as follows:-

"L. Baranovsky, owner of a cloth shop at 750 Avenue Joffre. He is well known to Police as a smuggler of narcotics and a swindler. He often received by post from Paris various parcels containing clothing and perfume which were sent to him by Leontieff, his agent in Paris."

It is of interest to note that the status of a Chinese



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SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

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REPORT

Station,
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Subject (in full).....

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citizen accords Baranovsky considerably more freedom of movement than he had as a Russian emigrant.

G. Prokofiev

D. S. I.

D. C. (Crime & Special Branches)

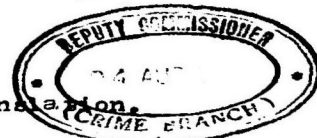
Copy sent to Mr 'B'

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FILE
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28/8

August 24, 1936.

Afternoon Translation.



RUSSIAN BECOMES NATURALIZED CHINESE CITIZEN

The following notice is published by one "Blunovsky" in the advertisement columns of the "Sin Wan Pao" and other local newspapers:-

Recently I submitted an application for Chinese naturalization in accordance with Section 5, Article 2, of the Nationalization Law of the Chinese Republic. According to a notification received from the Bureau of Public Safety of the Shanghai City Government, the Ministry of Interior has approved the application and a Nationalization Certificate No. 81, character "Hoong" (洪), will be issued. I hereby publish this notice of my naturalization for public information in accordance with the provisions of Article 6 of the Nationalization Law.

Ta Kung Pao and other local newspapers:

ENCOUNTER BETWEEN CHINESE POLICE AND ROBBERS

Upon being informed of an armed robbery that was taking place at a ricksha company, No. 72 Sz An Li (南京路), Han Foong Road, Chapel, at 2.15 a.m. yesterday, a number of policemen and detectives, led by the Officer-in-Charge of the Han Foong Road Police Station, went to the scene. An exchange of shots took place between the Police and the robbers. Two robbers, one of whom was armed, were subsequently apprehended, and a pistol No. 92213 was seized.

Chinese Saturday Post (星期六) published the following article on August 22 :-

JAPANESE DESIRE TO ESTABLISH A CONSULATE AT CHENG TU

Information is to hand that Japan desires to establish a Consulate at Chengtu, Szechuen Province. This will constitute a violation of International Law and impairs the sovereign rights of China. Furthermore, there are only a few Japanese in Chengtu. It is simply an old trick of the Japanese Imperialists to extend their wicked influence.

For the existence of our nation, we should rise and oppose the unlawful attempt of the Japanese Imperialists to establish a Consulate at Chengtu!

China Times publishes the following article:

THE "ELECTRIC HAND" : A NEW INVENTION TO DEAL WITH ROBBERS

For the maintenance of peace and safety, the Police have to resort to drastic measures to suppress crime. For this reason, the Police sometimes have to open fire on robbers for they have no better method to deal with robbers who offer resistance.

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Afternoon Translation.

According to Mr. Chen, a returned student, the robberies in Europe and America are dealt with by the Police with gas pistols and tear gas bombs. Criminals are rendered senseless by the gas and their arrest is thus affected by the Police.

Owing to shortage of funds, China cannot adopt this method.

In order to remedy this situation, an "electric hand" has been invented by one Chin Yin (秦英). Although the "electric hand" is not so effective as gas weapons, it will be of valuable help to the Police.

Chin Yin was recently transferred from a military organ at Foochow to the Public Safety Bureau in Shanghai. He is the inventor of the "electric hand" after three long years of experiments. Many dogs and rabbits have been sacrificed.

This "electric hand" can be separated into two parts: one section consists of machine and a battery; direct current is used. The machine has a leather case 2½ by 3 inches. The weight of machine and battery is less than one pound. It can be comfortably carried in a pocket. The second part of the "electric hand" is a glove (which can be fitted to both hands). This glove has an inner lining and an outer coating. Between the thumb and the third finger, are placed four electric conductors. There are two electric buttons at the wrist, which are connected by wire to the battery. The "hand" is operated by switching open the knob of the machine and a current of electricity is immediately fed to the glove. When any part of the body of a robber touches or is held by the "hand," the robber will be immediately paralyzed. The cost of an apparatus is not more than \$10 Chinese currency.

The inventor has submitted the apparatus together with an explanation to General Tsai Chin Chun, Commissioner of the local Public Safety Bureau. If General Tsai thinks the invention can be used, funds will be raised for its manufacture in large quantities. A public exhibition may be given in future.

Eastern Daily News dated Aug. 22:

ALLEGATIONS AGAINST SECRETARY OF SHANGHAI FISH MARKET

Zung Ching Ping (任清平), Secretary of the Shanghai Fish Market, is a very clever and smart person and is therefore highly regarded by Wang Hsiao Lai, the General Manager of the Market. Zung Ching Ping was once charged and fined by the Courts for establishing a China Post Delivery Company which was considered harmful to the Chinese Post Office.

Recently he was implicated in the case against Chang Ts Lien (張子廉) and went into hiding with Chang. He has at present requested a certain influential person to mediate in the hope of bringing about a settlement of the case. However as the authorities are looking for him, he has failed to attend the office for the past few days. It is learned that he has escaped with Chang Ts Lien.

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The "Sweat & Blood" Weekly Magazine (汗血周刊), Volume 7, Issue No. 8, published the following brief comment on August 23 :-

THE DANCE HALLS IN THE FOREIGN SETTLEMENTS - SUPPRESSION DESIRED

At the present time when every business in Shanghai is suffering from financial stringency owing to business depression, the dance halls are making a prosperous business and their number has increased tremendously during the past two or three years. As a matter of fact, small dance halls have been springing up like mushrooms ever since the latter half of the last year. They can be seen everywhere in the central district and along Avenue Edward VII in the International Settlement; they are even more numerous than hot water shops. As a whole, there are about 250 cabarets, large and small, in Shanghai.

At this time of acute national crisis, the Chinese youth should fulfil his duty as a citizen of the Republic so as to be prepared for emergencies. Dance halls jeopardize the future of promising youths. It is, therefore, to be hoped that the authorities of the Settlements will reduce to a minimum the business hours as well as the number of the cabarets, while on the other hand it is to be requested that no further permits should be issued for dance halls. Our Government should open negotiations with the authorities of the Settlements for an immediate suppression of dance halls.

The Star Daily News (明星日報) published the following article on August 22 :-

THE NEW CHINESE DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT OF GAOLS OF THE INTERNATIONAL SETTLEMENT

The positions of Superintendent and Deputy Superintendent of Gaols of the International Settlement are usually held by foreigners. Recently the Deputy Superintendent of Gaols, a British subject, retired and the Chinese Councillors as well as the Chinese Ratepayers Association have vigorously requested the S.M.C. to appoint a Chinese to fill the vacancy. The S.M.C. agreed but insisted on certain strict conditions for this appointment.

Later, the Ministry of Justice recommended Nieh Sing Meng (嚴聖明), a criminologist, to the Council for this appointment. Mr. Nieh is a graduate of Yenching University and was awarded the degree of B.A. of Philosophy by Columbia University, U.S.A. The Council considers Mr. Nieh a qualified candidate for the post.

It is learned that the letter of appointment has already been delivered by the S.M.C. and has been transmitted to Mr. Nieh by the Ministry of Justice. The New Deputy Superintendent of Gaols will arrive here very soon and will formally take up his post as from September 1. His pay will be \$450 per mensem (equivalent to \$630). During his three years of probation, he will not be entitled to promotion.